

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 649

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of bone mass measurements for certain individuals under part B of the medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 24, 1997

Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. MACK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of bone mass measurements for certain individuals under part B of the medicare program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Bone Mass
5 Measurement Standardization Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE COVERAGE OF BONE MASS MEASURE-**
7 **MENTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861 of the Social Secu-
9 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (s)—

2 (A) in paragraph (12)(C), by striking
3 “and” at the end;

4 (B) by striking the period at the end of
5 paragraph (14) and inserting “; and”;

6 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (15) and
7 (16) as paragraphs (16) and (17), respectively;
8 and

9 (D) by inserting after paragraph (14) the
10 following:

11 “(15) bone mass measurement (as defined in
12 subsection (oo)).”; and

13 (2) by inserting after subsection (nn) the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “Bone Mass Measurement

16 “(oo)(1) The term ‘bone mass measurement’ means
17 a radiologic or radioscopy procedure or other Food and
18 Drug Administration approved technology performed on a
19 qualified individual (as defined in paragraph (2)) for the
20 purpose of identifying bone mass, detecting bone loss, or
21 determining bone quality, and includes a physician’s inter-
22 pretation of the results of the procedure.

23 “(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘quali-
24 fied individual’ means an individual who is (in accordance
25 with regulations prescribed by the Secretary)—

1 “(A) an estrogen-deficient woman at clinical
2 risk for osteoporosis and who is considering treat-
3 ment;

4 “(B) an individual with vertebral abnormalities;

5 “(C) an individual receiving long-term
6 glucocorticoid steroid therapy;

7 “(D) an individual with primary
8 hyperparathyroidism; or

9 “(E) an individual being monitored to assess
10 the response to or efficacy of an approved
11 osteoporosis drug therapy.”.

12 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Sections 1864(a),
13 1865(a), 1902(a)(9)(C), and 1915(a)(1)(B)(ii)(I) of the
14 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395aa(a), 1395bb(a),
15 1396a(a)(9)(C), and 1396n(a)(1)(B)(ii)(I)) are amended
16 by striking “paragraphs (15) and (16)” each place it ap-
17 pears and inserting “paragraphs (16) and (17)”.

18 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
19 this section shall apply to bone mass measurements per-
20 formed on or after January 1, 1998.

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